

## LET OUR VOICES OF FAITH BE HEARD!

### Affordable Health Care FOR ALL



When a Medicare recipient has to choose between life-saving prescription drugs and food;

When an uninsured person finds a suspicious lump and puts off the doctor's visit because he/she doesn't have the money to pay for it;

When inexcusable disparities characterize health care among racial and ethnic minorities;

When quality health care for all is undermined by excessive charges for health care services and products;

When medical expenses contribute to personal bankruptcies for a growing number of U.S. families;

Then we, as people of faith, must confront the injustices of our health care delivery system!

**No longer can people of faith be silent  
when 47 million of us suffer because  
we lack access to affordable health care.**

All faith traditions challenge us to engage in healing, to act with justice, and to treat one another with compassion. In the U.S. today, we witness a health care delivery system which distributes services unjustly, rations care inequitably, and offers compassion only to those who can afford it.

**NOW is the time for our nation to take seriously  
the need for affordable health care for all.**

## What is *affordable* health care?

### Affordable health care for individuals means:

- ❑ Out-of-pocket expenditures do not create financial barriers to needed care.
- ❑ Health care expenditures do not compromise paying for other basic needs, such as housing, utilities, and food.

### Affordable health care for our society means:

- ❑ Costs are shared equitably by individuals, employers, and government entities.
- ❑ Appropriate oversight is given to ensure the proper use of health care dollars and to reduce waste.

## What can people of faith do?

- ❑ **PRAY** for those who suffer needlessly because they lack access to our nation's health care resources.
- ❑ **STUDY** the issues so that you can make informed decisions about your own health care, assist others in their decisions and vote responsibly for those who share your concerns.
- ❑ **VOLUNTEER** at a health care facility that provides services for the under-served in your community.
- ❑ **UNITE** with others who are proclaiming that providing affordable health care for all is a *moral imperative*.
- ❑ **URGE** your elected officials and candidates to rise above the special interests of economic and political influence to promote a system that is moral, just and compassionate – and affordable.

For information about working for affordable health care for all contact:

FAITHFUL REFORM IN HEALTH CARE

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